



**National Club Championships 2025/26  
REGULATIONS**

**1. EVENT CATEGORIES:**

1	Men's Championship (4 player team)	(PAR Scoring to 11)
2	Women's Championship (3 player team)	(PAR Scoring to 11)
3	Mixed Championship (2 men, 1 woman)	(PAR Scoring to 11)

**2. CLUB ELIGIBILITY:**

The National Club Championships ('Championships') are open to all clubs and leisure facilities England Squash for the 2025/26 season.

To compete in the Championships, a club must have paid its affiliation fees in full for the year in which the competition is taking place and by the date of the first tie. Failure to do so will result in the tie being awarded to the opponent.

**3. PLAYER ELIGIBILITY:**

For a player to be eligible to represent a club in the Championships they must meet the following requirements:

- i) All players must be a **member of England Squash**, with '*Just Play*' being the minimum level. Membership must be **maintained throughout the full competition period**.
- ii) Players must have:
  - Represented the club in **at least two matches** in any local or county league or the Optasia Squash Super League during the current season, **or**
  - Played for the same club in the **previous season's** National Club Championships or European Club Championships.
- iii) Players who have competed in the National Club Championships within the **previous 12 months** are eligible to play in the **preliminary round(s)**.
- iv) To be eligible for the **finals round(s)**, a player must have played in **at least one preliminary round fixture** for the club during the current season.
- v) A player **must not** have played in this competition for **another team during the same season**.
- vi) Teams **cannot strengthen** their line-up for the finals round(s) by:
  - Including players who have **not played at least one preliminary round match** prior to the finals round(s), or
  - Including players who have **not been previously nominated**.
- vii) For the **Men's event**, each team must include a **minimum of three players** per fixture who qualify to represent England, Northern Ireland, Scotland or Wales. For the **Women's event**, each team must include a **minimum of two players** per fixture who qualify to represent England, Northern Ireland, Scotland or Wales.
  - Qualification is determined by the rules of the World Squash.
- viii) There is **no limit** on the number of overseas players a club may **nominate**, but **only one overseas player may be fielded in any single tie**.
- ix) **Fielding ineligible players** will result in the **rubber/match** being awarded to the opposing team.
- x) Teams may include **lower-strength players** for the Finals weekend **if** those players have competed in **at least two other matches** for the club in any local or county league during the current season.

**Any exceptions to the requirements must be approved by England Squash at least 3 working days before any fixture.**

#### **NOMINATIONS:**

All Team Organisers must submit team nominations online in order of merit at least 48 hours before their first fixture. Players may be added during the duration of the Championships so long as they are placed in the correct merit order and rules 3. i to x are adhered to.

#### **PSA Player Eligibility:**

A banding system is applied for PSA players who compete in the National Club Championships, which is in line with ESF (European Squash Federation) eligibility rules.

#### **Men's Team: Maximum 60 Points per team in any match**

Band	PSA Ranking	Points
A	Current ranking of 1-20	30
B	Current ranking of 21-50	20
C	Current ranking of 51-100	15
D	Current ranking of 101-150	10
E	Any ex-PSA member that had a previous PSA ranking <151 shall carry 10 Banding points forward until 45 years of age	10
F	Other	5

#### **Women's Team: Maximum 40 Points per team in any match**

Band	PSA Ranking	Points
A	Current ranking of 1-10	20
B	Current ranking of 11-30	15
C	Current ranking of 31-75	10
D	Any ex-PSA member that had a previous PSA ranking <76 shall carry 10 Banding points forward until 45 years of age	10
E	Other	5

#### **4. FINES**

- i) Teams that reach the finals round but fail to contest their match/withdraw may incur a fine.
- ii) Clubs will have the right to appeal, which must be made to the Tournament Director within 14 days, the appeal will be passed on to England Squash who will either uphold or deny the appeal. Clubs will be advised of the outcome within one week of the decision being made.
- iii) Any club that refuses to pay a fine may be banned from future championships.

#### **5. FIRST AID:**

All hosting teams should have a first aider always present. It is also the responsibility of the away team to check with the hosts that a first aider is available.

#### **6. SCORING:**

- i) All matches will be played with PAR scoring to 11. Should players reach 10-10 in any game a tie break will take place with the winner needing to win by 2 clear points.

- ii) Should a Men's Squash match finish at 2 rubbers each, the winner will be decided on games won, should this also be equal, the winner will be decided on points won, if points are also equal then whichever team's number one player won shall be deemed the winning team.

7. **SUBMITTING RESULTS:**

Both Team Organisers are responsible for submitting the results via the online system (Sports Manager) on the night of the fixture, or no later than three days afterward.

8. **FORMAT:**

- Men's fixtures will be played between teams of 4 players,
  - Women's fixtures will be played between teams of 3 players.
  - Mixed events will be made up of 2 male and 1 female player
- (The mixed event concludes at the National Finals and does not advance to the European Championships).

In Men's and Women's competitions, players must be arranged strictly in descending order of playing level (merit order). In Mixed competitions, male players must follow merit order, while female players may only compete against other female players. Players may play in both the mixed and the men's/ women's categories.

- iii) The **home team** must offer their opponents, by telephone, email or text, a choice of at least three dates within three days of the receipt of the draw, two of which must be at different weekends.

The first date offered must provide a minimum of seven days' notice. A response to the offered dates should be made within three days of receipt. **Should the away side receive no offer of dates within the prescribed three days, the away team should initially attempt to contact the home side, and if unsuccessful the Tournament Director should be contacted immediately.** If the home team has offered dates as described, the away side should make every effort to accept one but, if no mutual agreement can be reached, the 'play by' date listed becomes the 'play on' date.

Time extensions beyond round dates will only be granted by the Tournament Director and will only be agreed in very exceptional circumstances. Teams are encouraged to make contact within the time stipulated to avoid the danger of elimination if matches cannot be arranged.

- iv) Clubs who organise unauthorised extensions to round closing dates are liable to disqualification. Cancellation of ties with less than 48 hours' notice will result in a 'walk-over' being awarded to the opposing team unless exceptional circumstances can be evidenced, e.g. extreme travel difficulties. The judgement of 'exceptional circumstances' will be at the sole discretion of the Tournament Director.
- v) The WSF Rules of play and the England Squash Code of Conduct will apply to all matches for this competition.
- vi) **The format for each event will depend on entry numbers.** If possible, we will run a regional group stage, with the winners moving into a national knockout stage to guarantee a minimum of 2 or 3 fixtures. Where necessary, England Squash reserve the right to award a bye.
- viii) It is the responsibility of the home club to book and pay for adequate court time for the tie including time required in respect of delayed commencement. The home team must also provide and pay for a post-match meal for players.
- ix) The Dunlop Pro squash ball is the official ball of the championships and should be used for all rounds including the finals weekend.
- x) Prior to the commencement of the tie, team captains will provide confirmed teams, in order of merit and confirm the order of play. In the Men's event, ties should be played on two courts with the order of matches being rubbers 4 and 3 on one court and 1 and 2 on the other. In the Women's event, one court

should be used with the match order being rubbers 3, 1, 2. The order may only be altered by mutual agreement between both captains. Should any player fail to arrive within 30 minutes of their scheduled start time, or having arrived, fail to play the match, that rubber shall be forfeited.

- xi) The National Clubs Championship finals date and venue to be confirmed.
- xii) The Tournament Director reserves the right to declare certain matches, involving considerable travel, as neutral venue matches. In such circumstances the Tournament Director will appoint one team to make adequate arrangements suitable to both parties. Any costs incurred should be divided between the participating teams.

#### 9. ENTRIES / ADMINISTRATION:

- i) There is an entry fee of £80 (4 person team) or £60 (3 person team) per event category.
- ii) **Draws will be available using Sport Manager. Team Organisers must use Sport Manager for submitting nominations and results to enable the smooth running of the Championships.**
- iii) All enquiries relating to the Championships should be directed to the Tournament Director at [nationalclubchamps@englandsquash.com](mailto:nationalclubchamps@englandsquash.com) Any complaints relating to ties must be made in writing within 48 hours of the complaint arising.
- iv) The decisions of the Tournament Director and / or England Squash shall be final.
- v) The rules and regulations governing the National Club Championships are written and updated by England Squash. England Squash reserves the right to amend these rules at any time, without prior notice, to uphold the integrity of the competition and to ensure the welfare of all participants. Any changes will be communicated to any affected clubs.

#### 10. EUROPEAN CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

- i. The winning team in both the men's and ladies' competitions will receive an automatic entry into the European Club Championships. The European Club Championships are administrated by ESF.
- ii. England Squash will enter the winning teams into the European Club Championships and pay for the entry fee.
- ii. All other expenses incurred by the teams are the responsibility of the relevant team / club / players.
- iii. For all other details about the European Club Championships please visit:  
<https://europeansquash.com/championships/>
- iv.